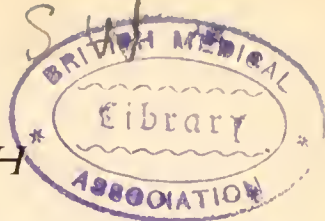


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TWENTY-FOURTH

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

*Sanitary Condition*

OF THE

SHELF

LOCAL BOARD DISTRICT

*For the Year 1897,*

BY

W. ROSE THERNE THOMPSON,

L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., L.F.P.S.G.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



SHELF:

J. H. WOODHEAD, BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER.

1898.



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SHELF, JANUARY, 1898.

TO THE LOCAL BOARD OF SHELF.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my second Annual Report on the Sanitary Condition of the District, for the year ending December 31st, 1897.

It is the Twenty-fourth Annual Report made for this District.

*Population.*—I do not think that there is any change in the population since last year, which was estimated at 2,700, an increase of 50 on that of the former year (1895), and an increase of 88 since the census of 1891.

*Births.*—The births during the year have been 62, viz., 34 males, 24 females, and 4 illegitimate, or at the rate of 22·96 per 1,000 as compared to 63 at the rate of 23·3 per 1,000 in 1896. This year, the male births have exceeded the female by 10, whereas, the year before, the male births were 15 less than the female, or in other words, the male birth rate per 1,000 was 12·59 in 1897, and 8·88 per 1,000 in 1896. The female birth rate being 8·88 per 1,000 in 1897, and 14·44 per 1,000 in 1896.

Unfortunately, in these calculations, I have not been able to obtain the sex of the illegitimate.

*Deaths.*—The total number of deaths for the year was 40, viz., 19 males and 21 females, or at the rate of 14·8 per 1,000, as compared to a death rate of 14 per 1,000, made up of 16 males and 22 females in 1896.

It will be noticed that there is a great uniformity in this and last year's death rates, the lowness of which arises to some extent from the mildness of the winters, and the absence of any marked epidemic.

This is well seen if we take the winter of 1895, which was a severe one, and in which Influenza was epidemic. The death rate for the first quarter of the year was as high as 31·6 per 1,000, with a total death rate for the year of 19·6 per 1,000.

The deaths of children under 1 year were 9, equivalent to 22·5 per cent. of registered deaths, or of 14·5 per cent. of registered births. There were 17 deaths at 60 years and upwards, or at the rate of 42·5 per cent. of the total registered deaths.

*Phthisis*.—I am glad to say that there were no recorded deaths under this head.

*Pulmonary Diseases*.—From bronchitis, pneumonia, &c., there were 10 deaths, an average of 25 per cent., as compared to only 7·8 per cent. last year.

*Zymotic Diseases*.—There were 3 deaths under this class, 2 from scarlet fever, and 1 from Diphtheria, giving a Zymotic death rate of 7·5 per cent., as compared to 7·4 per cent. last year.

The case of diphtheria was an isolated one on the outskirts of the district, and I was unable to trace its origin. It was the only case occurring during the year.

The first case of scarlet fever broke out on March the 28th, and its origin could be traced to Northowram, a neighbouring township, where there were several cases at that time. Several fresh cases broke out during the next two months. The type was either very mild or else exceedingly severe. Every precaution was taken, such as isolation, and the houses thoroughly disinfected by your Sanitary Inspector.

In the beginning of the year, measles broke out in Stone Chair, I made a house to house inspection, as owing to the mildness of the type they were being treated without medical assistance. Strict isolation, and retention from school, soon stamped out the attack.

*Inspections.*—These have been made frequently and systematically. Cases of infectious disease have been visited, and preventative precautions taken wherever possible.

*Nuisances.*—These have received every attention from your inspector.

*Excrement and Refuse Removal*—This in the past has been carried out by farmers and others, a system which did not work very well. The Shelf Local Board are now prepared to empty privies, or remove refuse, at a small charge, whenever requested to do so. Any tenant who creates a nuisance by neglecting to have this done, will have a notice served for the abatement of such nuisance within 24 hours.

*Drainage.*—The Sewage of the District is conducted into fields and streams; in some cases cesspools are adopted.

Active steps are being taken towards the adoption of some system, and the whole District has been surveyed, alternative schemes suggested, and estimates are being drawn up. The Members of the Council, with their Officers, have gone over the suggested line, along with the Surveyor, and the best steps to take are receiving every consideration.

*Water.*—The greater part of the District is supplied with good water, by a private Company, from the Bradford Corporation supply. This water is of good quality, with no solvent action on lead.

I think it would be highly satisfactory if this supply was under the control of the District Council. Other parts rely for their supply on surface wells, deep wells and springs. These are for the most part good, and during the rainy

months adequate, but after several weeks of dry weather, the surface springs fail, so that besides the scarcity of water, there is always more or less risk from contamination.

*Hospital.*—No further steps have been taken in this matter, it is quite impossible for Shelf to undertake one single-handed, and the formation of one can only be arrived at in conjunction with some of the neighbouring sanitary authorities.

*Infectious Diseases' Notification Act.*—The compulsory notification of infectious diseases, was adopted and came into force May, 1896. I would be very glad if the Council will include measles amongst the notifiable diseases, as this would greatly help me in my duties, whilst adding very little to the expense.

*Vaccination.*—The people generally are very ignorant on this matter, and there are strong native prejudices to overcome. I think that the personal influence of members of the Council, if exercised in the proper manner, might assist greatly in removing these.

The result of the Government Commission has demonstrated so conclusively the value of vaccination as a prophylaxis against small-pox, and the advantage it is to the community, that it behoves us all to endeavour to encourage it, and to foster a feeling of confidence and trust, among the people.

*Bye-Laws.*—These need revising.

*Slaughter-houses.*—(2) These are in good condition.

*Bake-houses.*—(1) Quite satisfactory.

*Offensive Trades, Tannery.*—Satisfactory.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. ROSETHERNE THOMPSON,

L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., &c.,

Medical Officer of Health.

## SHELF URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

*Nuisance Inspector's Report for 1897.*


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No. of Inspections made	...	...	...	...	147
,, Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	6
,, House drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	7
,, ,, ,, trapped	...	...	...	...	15
Privies repaired, cleansed, &c.	..	...	...	...	14
,, new	...	...	...	...	12
Ashpits, new	...	...	...	...	4
Total number of houses supplied with water	...	...	...	...	459
Removal of stagnant water and accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	5
Number of Slaughter-houses Inspected	...	...	...	...	2
,, Bake-houses	..	...	...	...	1
13 gullies, and 154 yards of earthenware pipes laid.					

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# TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS,

Coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1897,

## IN THE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF SHELF.

Classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all ages.		Registered Births.		Aged under 5 or over 5.	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.													Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital.													
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1897.	62	Under 5... 5 upwds ...		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
						Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.			Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas			
	2,612	2,700				3	1																									
						9																										

Notification of Infectious Disease is compulsory in the District.  
No Isolation Hospital.



# TABLE OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1897, IN THE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF SHELF.

Classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the pur- pose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separ- ate localities.	Mortality from all Causes, at subjoined Ages.						Mortality from subjoined Causes, distinguish Children under Five Years of Age.																			Deaths of																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Under 5...	5 upwds...	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	Total.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
	40	9	4	1	1	8	17	Under 5...	5 upwds...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Area in Acres, 1350.

Population (1891), 2612.

# SHELF URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Medical Officer of Health:—W. ROSEETHERNE THOMPSON,  
L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., &c.

Sanitary Inspector:—Mr. WALTER CROWTHER.

WATER SUPPLY—No. of Houses having constant public supply—459.  
Obtain from—*Private Company*.  
Any adequacy in any part—*Lower Shelf & Riding Hill*.  
Quality—*Good*. Action on Lead—*None*.  
Any extensions or change during 1897?—*Two extensions*.

SEWERAGE—Extensions or improvements during 1897—*Scheme now being considered*.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL—*None*.  
(or proposed)—*Sub-judice*.

## BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE—

Dairies ..	}	Date of Adoption— <i>July 14th, 1897</i> .
Cowsheds		
Milkshops		
		General Condition— <i>Good</i> .

SPECIAL REPORTS—Number made by Medical Officer of Health } *None*.  
during 1897—

ISOLATION HOSPITAL—Any action during 1897—*None*.

## MISCELLANEOUS—

Number of Houses built during 1897—1.  
General character—*Private House—Stone*.  
Is House-to-house Inspection systematically made—*No*.  
Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1896—1. at close 1897—3.  
Reported during 1897—28. Abated during 1897—25.  
Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—*None*.  
No. of Sink wastes disconnected during 1897—9.  
" " trapped " 15.  
No. of Closets constructed during 1897—4. Kinds—*Privies*.

## WHAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN IN REGARD TO THE FOLLOWING MATTERS—

Houses unfit for habitation— <i>None.</i>	Overcrowding— <i>None.</i>
Seizure of Unsound Food— <i>None.</i>	Prosecutions— <i>None.</i>
Samples under Sale of Food & Drugs Act— <i>4</i>	Prosecutions— <i>None.</i>
Smoke Abatement—No. of observations taken— <i>None.</i>	
Schools—No. in District— <i>2.</i> No. closed on account of outbreaks of disease— <i>None.</i>	
Burial Grounds—No. in District— <i>4.</i> Any need of extension— <i>No.</i>	
Vaccination—General efficiency— <i>Great apathy on part of people.</i>	

BIRTHS— <i>Males 34.</i>	<i>Females 24.</i>	<i>Total 58</i>
Number illegitimate not included in the above		<i>4</i>
		<hr/>
		<i>62</i>

Any information as to Still Births—*None.*

DEATHS— <i>Males 19.</i>	<i>Females 21.</i>	<i>Total 40.</i>
Number uncertified, included in above— <i>1.</i>		

RATEABLE VALUE—Houses, &c.—*£5,843.*    Land, &c.—*£408 5s.*

## SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF DISTRICT AND SUGGESTIONS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

The absolute control of the Water Supply.

An Isolation Hospital in conjunction with other Local Boards.

Sewage Disposal (System now under consideration).

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